"Parks & Recreation" (Vigo Co.)

MEMORIAL PARK (North end)

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE

40 years ago today

OCT 14 1951

Revive Park Movement.

North end citizens revived the organization of the Memorial Park Improvement Association in a meeting Wednesday night at the residence of J. H. Thompson, 1621 North Fourth street. L. C. Turner was chosen temporary chairman and R. D. Pearson was named as temporary secretary. A committee consisting of J. H. Thompson and R. D. Pearson was selected to arrange for a general community meeting to be held at the Second Christian Church, Fourth street and Eighth avenue at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday. In this event the park improvement program will be discussed and planned. The improvement of the park site has long been a much desired project.

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Community Affairs File

MEMORIAL PARK

Community Affairs File

W. Myers Director Of Memorial Park

Parks & Recreation (Vigo Co.)

In a Saturday news release made by City Park Superintendent Pat Dougherty, Wayne Myers was appointed Recreation Director of Memorial Park.

Myers is Deputy State Softball Commissioner of Indiana and Park Manager of the local Terre Haute Softball Stadium.

Myers is well known for his softball pitching and promotion of the game of softball.

Myers will be co-ordinating a full-time program at Memorial Park which is located at 4th and 4th Ave. for boys and girls during the day and men and women's leagues in the evening. All teams will be sanctioned by the Amateur Softball of America and will compete in the Indiana State Tourney at the season's end. Anyone wishing to enter a team in one of these leagues should contact Myers at the Softball Stadium or by calling his home phone 235-8686. Please do not call Myers during working hours.

It is hoped that a new softball league can be formed for night shift workers with games being played at the local softball stadium during daytime hours.

WAYNE MYERS

Anyone interested in entering a league of this nature should contact Myers as soon as possible. Anyone desiring to umpire in these various leagues should contact Wayne Myers or Jerry Schalburg.

Memorial Park

Park Perspective

Parks + Recreation (VC)

Community Affairs File

T.H. Gazette 2-22-85

by Patrick Ralston,
City Parks Superintendent

The park featured this week is Memorial Park, which is located at Third Street and Eighth Avenue on Terre Haute's northwest side. Memorial Park has a total acreage of 9.77 acres which is sparsely covered with trees as well as a sunken area which is open and is used for softball.

Memorial Park was established on June 12, 1909, in honor of War Veterans from Terre Haute. Back in the early years of Terre Haute Memorial Park was used for Memorial Day Services by the veterans. When the Park Department was established December 1, 1909, Memorial Park was donated to the City by the War Veterans. Also in the late 1909 the Athletic Field was added to Memorial Park which is known as the "Sunken Softball Diamond".

The 1926 Park Department Annual report stated the following interesting information. "MEMORIAL Park at 4th Street & Eighth Avenue, is only a fair representation of one of our neighborhood parks. This park, as you know, is divided by Fourth Street. The West part of the park is high and dry, and the East side of the park is the part where we have the playground equipment. Unfortunately, the west half is constantly inhabited by a gang of grown up men. Some of them have not worked in years. For a while they practically drove the children and women from the west side over to the east side. It is a condition that is hard to control. They came into the park drunk and served notice on the attendant that they were citizens and that the park belonged to them as much as it did anyone else. Finally, the condition became so bad, we were forced to put on an extra man at nights to control the situations. Even this did not entirely eliminate the trouble. We made them behave, and as long as they acted right, they could stay in the park, but people would not let their children inhabit this section knowing they were present. If the same condition exists next year, we will be forced to take drastic action. The East half was well patronized by the children and mothers who sought recreation in this part of the park."

It sounds like the problem with gangs is sure not something new to Terre Haute.

In 1937, Annual Report states that a total of $403.61 was spent on maintenance and security at Memorial Park. If things were that cheap today we could get a great amount accomplished on our budget. The report also stated: "In 1937, in cooperation with Mr. W.N. Durbin of the Terre Haute Water Works, Fire Department and the W.P.A. the Sunken Athletic Field was flooded for ice skating." This provided a great amount of Winter Recreation.

Today Memorial Park has a shelter-restroom complex, playground equipment and lighted softball diamond with a concession stand. The softball diamond is used extensively with mens and womens leagues. Memorial Park offers a variety of activities from passive forms of recreation to the most active forms of recreation.

Community Affairs File

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MEMORIAL PARK

HORSESHOES AT MEMORIAL PARK—Pitching horseshoes is one of the activities available for visitors to Memorial Park. Baseball and softball are played in another section of the park. 7-14-68 Trib-Star **Photo by Martin**

Memorial Park, which is in two separate sections between 3rd and 6th streets and 7th and

Continued On Page 15, Col. 1.

8th avenues, features softball activity primarily, although one may pitch horseshoes or relax on the park benches.

There's also a sprinkling pool in which the youngsters may play while the water sprays upon them. Park officials say the system is turned on whenever enough kids show up and ask to be doused.

At one time, there was a swimming pool in Memorial Park, but it was removed following passage of new state water purification regulations to which it could not measure up. The pool was in the east park section.

One of the highlights at the park each year is the Epiphany Eve (Twelfth Night) tree-burning ceremonies. Christmas trees are brought to the park and set ablaze under the supervision of the Terre Haute Fire Department.

Memorial Park is without doubt the least active of the three recreational areas, although softball is played on the sunken diamond where a swimming pool once was located. Horseshoe-pitching is also popular at the park.